

says there is no Colorado record for the first-named bird, and speaking from recollection, thinks there is none for the second. The birds will soon be in Mr. Brewster's collection.—T. W. THORNE, Capt. 22nd Infl., Fort Keogh, Montana.

The Raven as a South Carolinian. — In 1834, Audubon wrote of the Raven in his 'Ornithological Biography' (Vol. II, p. 2). "a few are known to breed in the mountainous portions of South Carolina, but instances of this kind are rare, and are occasioned merely by the security afforded by inaccessible precipices, in which they may rear their young." Again, on p. 7, he says, "I have already stated that some Ravens breed as far south as the Carolinas. The place to which they resort for this purpose is called the Table Mountain, which is situated in the district of Pendleton." Since the above was penned, the old "district" of Pendleton has been partitioned, and the portion occupied by Table Rock now forms a part of the County of Pickens.

During the early part of July, 1886, I visited this section, and made many inquiries respecting the Raven. I found it was a bird every one was familiar with, and that it continued to breed, not only at Table Rock, but also on the cliffs of the neighboring mountains. In June of the following year I visited the locality again. As I was anxious to devote all my time to the study of the smaller birds, I did not make an attempt, personally, to secure a specimen, but contented myself with offering a liberal reward for one. I was recalled home, however, after a week, and was unable to return to the mountains until June, 1888. In the meantime appeared Mr. Ridgway's 'Manual of North American Birds' with its definition of the new subspecies *principalis*. The statement concerning the uncertainty, through lack of specimens, as to the form inhabiting the eastern United States, stimulated my desire for a better knowledge of our alpine bird. During my last visit I sufficiently increased the bounty offered to put all the hunters of the region on the lookout, but it was not until the 27th of the following January that a specimen was secured, which was shot in a cove near Mt. Pinnacle while feeding on the carcass of a sheep. This long interval was not owing to the great rarity of the Ravens, but to their excessive wariness. I had been assured by all my informants that to capture one was a feat of no small difficulty, and that the best opportunity would be afforded where there was carrion.

A study of the specimen procured led to the conclusion that it could not properly be assigned to either *principalis* or *sinuatus*, it being fairly midway between these two manifestations. Desiring the authoritative expression of the describer of the new race, I sent the bird to Mr. Ridgway, and his identification affirmed the position taken by myself as to its intermediate character. That an example of this nature should occur is not surprising when we consider that the upper country of South Carolina forms a sort of neutral ground where birds of the East, and many that are characteristic of the West, meet. A single specimen, from this region, of any bird having a western conspecific representative is not sufficient evi-

dence to indicate what subspecies is the prevailing one. Whether the Ravens of the Carolinian highlands belong to the northern or to the southwestern form, or whether both varieties occur, or whether they will be found to be so nearly intermediate as not to be susceptible of practicable separation, alone can be determined by the examination of a considerable series obtained at different seasons of the year.

That this species had not entirely deserted the Piedmont region at the time of Audubon's writing, I have lately obtained proof. A friend, still in active life, who has long been an intelligent observer of birds, informs me that between fifty and sixty years ago, the Raven was "plentiful" in the portions of Chester and York Counties contiguous to Broad River which has its source in the mountains of North Carolina about fifty miles distant. None, however, have been seen by him since the War. In Mill's 'Statistics of South Carolina' (1826), in the brief account of the birds of Newberry (also on Broad River, but further south in the Piedmont Belt), it is stated that "The Raven has also left this part of the country." Dr. Coues included this species in his 'Synopsis of the Birds of South Carolina' (1868) on the authority of Professor Gibbes, whose list of birds (Tuomey's 'Report on the Geology of South Carolina,' 1848) was based on Audubon's 'Synopsis of the Birds of North America.' Dr. Coues further adds, "I am under the impression that I once saw an individual at Columbia, but cannot speak positively." Weight is added to this statement by the situation of Columbia at the confluence of the Broad and Saluda Rivers, as the south fork of this latter stream, near its head, flows at the base of Table Rock, somewhat over a hundred miles away.—LEVERETT M. LOOMIS, *Chester, S. C.*

The Lapland Longspur near Chicago in June.—On June 14 of the present year (1889), I took an adult female *Calcarius lapponicus* in full summer plumage at Sheffield, Lake Co., Indiana, which is about sixteen miles southeast of Chicago, on Lake Michigan.

The bird was alone and seemed to be thoroughly at home with her surroundings, being shot near the sand hills close to the lake shore. She was quite fat and appeared to be in excellent condition, but the ovaries showed no approach of the breeding season.—B. T. GAULT, *Chicago, Ill.*

Helminthophila bachmani on the East Coast of Florida.—March 21, 1889, at 'Oak Lodge,' the residence of Mr. C. F. Latham, on the east peninsula opposite Micco, Brevard Co., Florida, it was the writer's rare good fortune to secure two specimens, male and female, of this recently resurrected species.

The ovaries of the female showed only slight traces of development, and this, in addition to the fact that the birds were evidently part of the flock of early migrating Warblers in which they were found, indicates, as might be expected, a more northern breeding ground than the scene of their capture, and considerably increases the area of their probable summer home. Taken in connection with the original discovery of the species by